

# Thousands Enjoy Festivities at Holtsville Ecology Site

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**Holtsville, NY** - In the true spirit of the holidays, thousands gathered at the Holtsville Ecology Site on Friday, November 29 to spend time with friends and family. Special memories were made as parents snapped photos of their excited, wide-eyed children making their way through lighted winter wonderland displays. When residents stepped outside, they were greeted to sing-a-longs and the smell of hot cocoa. Brookhaven Town Superintendent of Highways Daniel P. Losquadro announced the arrival of Santa by helicopter to an excited crowd. After Santa's arrival, Superintendent Losquadro and Santa led a countdown to the heavily anticipated lighting of the Ecology Site Christmas Tree.

"It was great seeing so many people taking advantage of all the festivities had to offer," Superintendent Losquadro said. "A lot of effort went into this night and seeing so many smiles on children's faces have made it all worthwhile. I want to thank April Perry and all the Brookhaven Highway employees whose herculean efforts made this event something the entire town could enjoy. I also want to extend my gratitude to the Holtsville Fire Department for its assistance."

"The Holtsville tree lighting is a wonderful holiday tradition where hundreds of families come together to celebrate the beginning of the holiday season," said Supervisor Ed Romaine. "In the coming weeks, I encourage all of our residents to donate a gift to our annual INTERFACE Toy Drive, which provides presents for over 7,000 needy children every year. Donations can be dropped off at Town Hall and other collection sites throughout Brookhaven until Wednesday, December 19. Call 451-8011 or go to [www.brookhaven.org](http://www.brookhaven.org) for more information and the locations of additional drop off sites."

Pictures with Santa and winter wonderland displays will be available for viewing at the Ecology Site December sixth through the eighth and December thirteenth through the fifteenth from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Entry is three dollars per person and children under three-years-old are free. All proceeds will be used to care for the injured and non-releasable animals at the Ecology Site, located at 249 Buckley Road in Holtsville. For further information, please call (631) 758-9664 or visit [www.brookhavenwildlifecenter.org](http://www.brookhavenwildlifecenter.org).

**Daniel P. Losquadro \* Highway Superintendent**

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